

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1002

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION, Urging the increased efforts for the control of prairie dogs.

WHEREAS, the prairie dog population in many parts of South Dakota is continuing to grow at an alarming rate;

WHEREAS, prairie dogs are responsible for the destruction of tens of thousands of acres of ranch and farm land making such acreages virtually valueless for agricultural pursuits; and

WHEREAS, damage caused to the land by prairie dogs also results in air and water pollution; and

WHEREAS, prairie dogs are a carrier of the plague and have infected humans and caused deaths in several instances; and

WHEREAS, a considerable amount of the problem is caused by prairie dogs migrating from land owned by the United States; and

WHEREAS, Section 34A-8-7 provides a mandatory procedure for the State of South Dakota to control prairie dogs encroaching on private lands from public lands:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Seventy-ninth Legislature of the State of South Dakota, the House of Representatives concurring therein, that the State of South Dakota by and through its Secretary of Agriculture and its Secretary of Game, Fish and Parks, immediately institute a program to control prairie dogs on private land that are encroaching from public lands; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that as part of that control program, the State of South Dakota and the United States establish a buffer zone within the public lands affected wherein the prairie dog population is controlled so that they are not migrating to the adjacent private lands.

Adopted by the House of Representatives,
Concurred in by the Senate,

January 26, 2004
January 28, 2004

Matthew Michels
Speaker of the House

Karen Gerdes
Chief Clerk of the House

Dennis Daugaard
President of the Senate

Patricia Adam
Secretary of the Senate